

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 08364 161046Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SY-04 /072 W

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P R 161018Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7495

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8364

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT KS

SUBJECT: GROWING CONCERN OF FOREIGN AND KOREAN CHURCH GROUPS  
AND PRESS REACTIONS AFTER REV. OGLE'S DEPORTATION

1. REV. STANTION WILSON AS SENIOR UNITED PRESBYTERIAN  
MISSIONARY AND REV. OLIN BURKHOLDER AS SENIOR METHODIST  
MISSIONARY, CALLED ON CHARGE DECEMBER 16 TO EXPRESS  
APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY EFFORTS ON BEHELF OF GEORGE OGLE  
AND TO INFORM USG OF THEIR DEEP CONCERN THAT ROKG WOULD  
BECOME INCREASINGLY HARSH IN CIRCUMSCRIBING THEIR  
ACTIVITIES. THEY SAID THEY FEARED THIS COULD WELL LEAD  
TO FURTHER EXPULSIONS. METHODIST MISSIONARY TEACHER  
EDWARD POITRAS MADE SEPARATE CALL WITH SIMILAR MESSAGE  
SAME DAY.
2. IN EFFORT TO HEAD OFF SUCH POSSIBILITY, DRS. WILSON  
AND BURKHOLDER TOGETHER WITH KOREAN CHURCH LEADER, AND  
DR. POITRAS, INDEPENDENTLY AND SEPARATELY, WILL SEEK  
MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PARK IN NEAR FUTURE TO CONVEY  
TO HIM GROWING CONCERN OF FOREIGN MISSIONARY COMMUNITY OVER  
ROKG POLICY, WHILE AT SAME TIME ASSURING HIM THAT THEY DO NOT  
WISH TO POSE THREAT TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 08364 161046Z

3. THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACT THEY HOPE TO OBTAIN UNDER-

STANDING FROM PRESIDENT NOT ONLY FOR FOREIGN MISSIONARY POSITION, BUT ALSO KOREAN CHURCHES. WITHOUT CONCILIATION, THEY FORESEE SERIOUS TURN FOR WORSE IN ROKG/CHURCH RELATIONSHIP AND STATUS OF MISSIONARIES. THEIR HOPE AND ASSUMPTION IS THAT PARK WILL REACT WITH UNDERSTANDING IF APPROACHED IN FRANK AND FORTHRIGHT MANNER AND GIVEN FULL BRIEFING ON BASIS FOR CHURCH ATTITUDES WHICH THEY FEEL HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN HIM BY HIS GOVERNMENT.

4. REVS. WILSON, BURKHOLDER AND POITRAS ALSO SOUGHT READING FROM DCM ON POSSIBLE FUTURE US ACTION REGARDING OGLE'S DEPORTATION AND ACCOUNT OF EMBASSY ROLE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AFFAIR. CHARGE REPLIED THAT OUR ROLE HAD BEEN TO PASS INFORMATION TO OGLE WITHOUT ADVISING HIM ON ANY COURSE OF ACTION AND, TO ASK THT OGLE BE GIVEN ALL RECOURSE PROVIDED BY KOREAN LAW, AND TO WARN ROKG OF POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES AND US PUBLIC REACTION.

5. REV. BURKHOLDER, PARTICULARLY, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE WHICH EMBASSY HAD GIVEN OGLE AND MISSIONARIES SINCE ROKG DECLARED ITS INTENTION TO DEPORT HIM AND FOR FACT THAT EMBASSY HAD TAKEN POSITION WITH OGLE THAT IT WOULD NOT PRESUME TO ADVISE HIM OR TO APPLY ANY PRESSURE ON HIM IN MATTER OF PERSONAL CONSCIENCE. HE ALSO SAID THAT THIS APPRECIATION HAD BEEN PASSED ON TO METHODIST OVERSEAS MISSION BOARD CHAIRMAN DR. FISHER AND NCC.

6. ALL THREE CALLERS SAID THAT THEIR CHURCHES WOULD REACT VERY STRONGLY TO EXPULSION OF OGLE. REV. BURKHOLDER AND DR. POITRAS INDICATED THAT METHODIST CHURCH IN US FULLY SUPPORTED REV. OGLE AND, ACCORDING TO POITRAS, OGLE MAY BE GIVEN MISSION TO KOREANS IN JAPAN AS NEXT ASSIGNMENT.

7. TURNING TO KOREAN CHURCH REACTIONS, DR. WILSON SAID THAT 33 MODERATORS OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN KOREA WOULD MEET DECEMBER 17 TO PETITION PRESIDENT PARK REQUESTING IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF PRISONERS AND THT ROKG END PRESSURE ON AND INTIMIDATION OF FOREIGN MISSIONARIES WHO IN KOREA AS GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF KOREAN CHURCHES, ACTING WITHIN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 08364 161046Z

WHAT CHURCHES CONSIDER PROPER CHRISTIAN MISSION FRAMEWORK. KOREAN METHODIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP HAS ALREADY GIVEN UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR OGLE AND HIS ACTIVITIES. ERICSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** EXPULSION, MISSIONARIES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** powellba2  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUN 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <23 JUN 2005 by blochd0>; APPROVED <23 JUN 2005 by powellba2>  
**Review Markings:**  
  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005  
  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GROWING CONCERN OF FOREIGN AND KOREAN CHURCH GROUPS AND PRESS REACTIONS AFTER REV. OGLE'S DEPORTATION  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, KS, US, (OGLE, GEORGE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005